

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 01800 120828Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7937

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: EAIRR, JA

SUBJ: CIVAIR: JAPAN CHARTER QUOTA

REF: TOKYO 1265

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED.

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM FONOFF DATED FEB. 8, 1975 (RECEIVED BY EMBASSY ON FEB. 12) RE CHARTER QUOTA FOR 1975.

BEGIN TEXT. I WOULD LIKE TO INFORM YOU OF THE POSITION OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT CONCERNING AIR CHARTER OPERATIONS INTO OR OUT OF JAPAN BY UNITED STATES SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIERS ON THE YEAR OF 1975 AS FOLLOWS:

(1) THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO AUTHORIZE THE US SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIERS TO OPERATE UP TO 15 ROUNDTRIP CHARTER FLIGHTS IN THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1975 (ONE FLIGHT OUT OF THE 15 HAS ALREADY BEEN OPERATED.) THE CHARTER FLIGHTS ORIGINATING IN JAPAN, HOWEVER, SHALL BE WITHIN THE LIMIT OF FIVE ROUNDTRIP CHARTER FLIGHTS.

(2) IN THE EVENT THAT ANY FREQUENCIES OUT OF THE 15 ARE NOT ACTUALLY OPERATED IN THE SAID QUARTER, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED TO APPROVE THAT SUCH FREQUENCIES

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 01800 120828Z

BE CARRIED OVER TO THE FOLLOWING MONTHS FOR OPERATIONS.

(3) THE ANNUAL QUOTA FOR CHARTER FLIGHTS BY THE US SUPPLEMENTAL CARRIERS IN 1975 WILL BE DECIDED LATER IN THE LIGHT OF THE FUTURE CIRCUMSTANCES. HOWEVER, THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT DOES NOT CONTEMPLATE ANY INCREASE OVER THE 1974 ANNUAL QUOTA, I.E. 70 ROUNDTRIP FLIGHTS.

(4) THE OTHER CRITERIA FOR APPROVAL OF CHARTER FLIGHTS SHALL BE THE SAME AS THOSE APPLIED IN THE PRECEDING YEARS. END TEXT.

2. WE HAVE CONVERVED SUBSTANCE OF FONOFF LETTER TOKYO OFFICES OF WORLD AIRWAYS AND TRANS INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES.

3. BEGIN L.O.U. COMMENT. WHILE NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR WHAT IS HOLDING UP ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUOTA FOR ENTIRE YEAR, WE BELIEVE IT INVOLVES, IN PART DIFFERENCE OF VIEW WITHIN JCAB ON WHETHER ADDITIONAL QUOTA SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR CHARTER SERVICE IN CONNECTION WITH OKINAWA OCEANOGRAPHIC EXPOSITION OPENING IN JULY. JCAB MAY BE CONSIDERING SETTING REGULAR QUOTA AT LEVEL BELOW THAT OF RECENT YEARS (70 ROUNDTRIP FLIGHTS) IN VIEW OF SLACKENING DEMAND FOR AIR SERVICES GENERALLY. HOWEVER, AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, EMBASSY ON NUMBER OF OCCASIONS HAS IMPORTUNED JCAB NOT TO REDUCE QUOTA. IN THAT CONNECTION, WHILE WE UNDERSTAND THAT WORLD AIRWAYS UP TO NOW HAS CONCLUDED NO CONTRACTS FOR US/JAPAN CHARTERS IN 1975, TRANS INTERNATIONAL'S TOKYO AGENT REPRRTS THAT TIA -- AS IT HAS IN PAST YEARS -- WILL HAVE TO TURN AWAY BUSINESS IN 1975 BECAUSE OF JAPAN'S RESTRICTIVE QUOTA. HODGSON

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